

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of the claims should replace all previous listings of the claims.

1. (Currently Amended) A stage-gearbox for motor vehicles, comprising :
an unsynchronized basic gearbox , the unsynchronized basic gearbox comprising at least one unsynchronized gear;
at least one synchronized auxiliary gear; and
at least one control unit for controlling engagement of the unsynchronized and synchronized auxiliary gears and neutral positions of the unsynchronized and synchronized gears, wherein, when the control unit receives a driver shift input to put all unsynchronized gears of the basic gearbox in a basic gearbox neutral position, the control unit puts the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear in an auxiliary gear neutral position such that gear reengagement can be secured if an engine of the motor vehicle stops while the unsynchronized gears are in the basic gearbox neutral position and the vehicle is driven at a speed other than zero.

2. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein, when the synchronized auxiliary gear is in the auxiliary gear neutral position, the control unit keeps a previously selected gear of the basic gearbox engaged.

3. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a split gear.

4. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 2, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a range gear.

5. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a split gear.

6. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear comprises a range gear.

7. (Previously Presented) The stage-gearbox as claimed in claim 1, wherein the control unit is arranged to engage a stage of the at least one synchronized auxiliary gear when all unsynchronized gears of the basic gearbox are in the basic gearbox neutral position and an engine with which the stage-gearbox is associated stops.